

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4507-02
Bill No.: Perfected HCS for HB 1759
Subject: Judges; Courts
Type: Original
Date: March 30, 2016

Bill Summary: This proposal adds a circuit judge to the 26th judicial circuit.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
General Revenue	(\$293,216)	(\$346,539)	(\$346,539)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$293,216)	(\$346,539)	(\$346,539)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
General Revenue	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE

☒ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA)** assume the proposed legislation adds a circuit judge to the 26th judicial circuit. There will be three circuit judges in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit who shall sit in divisions numbered one, two and three. The governor shall appoint a judge for division three who serve until January 1, 2021. The circuit judge in division three shall be elected in 2020.

For a circuit judge, the cost is as follows:

Circuit Court Judge: \$148,263 per year, plus fringes of \$111,365
Court Reporter: \$57,178 per year, plus fringes of \$29,733

In addition, there would be cost for computer equipment and associated costs for the two new FTE totaling \$4,433. The total annual cost for this legislation would be \$209,874 plus fringes of \$141,098, and 2 FTE, per year.

Oversight assumes the computer costs would be a one-time cost occurring in FY 2017. Total annual costs for FY 2017 for 10 months would be \$293,216. Total annual costs for FY 2018 and FY 2019 would be \$346,539.

Officials at the **Office of the Governor** assume §478.705 increases the number of circuit judges from two to three in the twenty-sixth judicial circuit to which the Governor shall appoint a judge for the newly created position. There should be no added cost to the Governor's Office as a result of this measure. However, if additional duties are placed on the office related to appointments in other TAFP legislation, there may be the need for additional staff resources in future years.

Oversight assumes the Governor can appoint this position as soon as this legislation goes into affect. Therefore, Oversight will reflect this cost starting in FY 2017.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Costs - OSCA - appointment of circuit judge in division three in the 26th circuit</u>	<u>(\$293,216)</u>	<u>(\$346,539)</u>	<u>(\$346,539)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(\$293,216)</u>	<u>(\$346,539)</u>	<u>(\$346,539)</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2018	 FY 2019
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

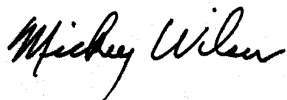
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill specifies that there must be three circuit judges in the 26th Judicial Circuit, and they must sit in Divisions numbered 1, 2, and 3. This bill specifies that the Governor must appoint a judge for Division 3 and that judge will serve until January 1, 2021. A judge for Division 3 must be elected in 2020.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the State Courts Administrator
Office of the Governor



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